JESSE KNIGHT

WHEN he was five years old, with his mother and her family of seven children, he arrived in Utah, a settlement three years old, one thousand miles from the nearest town. His father died a few days journey westward from the Missouri River.

The homes in Utah at that time were improvised shelters, there were no public and few private schools, and the needs of home were never satisfied. With these surroundings he grew to manhood and fatherhood. He tasted life from every angle that could fall to a boy and a man, under such surroundings.

He had not been an ardent Church member; while he was recognized as a Mormon, he had not been classed as a Latter-day Saint, he had not "had a testimony"; in other words, he had not been convinced as to the truth of the religion of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and the truth that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God.

In a dream, or vision, there was revealed to him that Utah was for the Mormons; that the doctrine of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was true; that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God; also, that if he went to a certain place (indelibly imprinted on his mind), that he would find a great vein of rich mineral, a mine. He followed the instructions given him in his dream, which took him to the now well-known Eureka mining district. There, away up on the mountain, he found the spot he had seen in his dream, and he uncovered the vein which led to a vast mineral body, which was opened up, only by much hard labor and many vicissitudes. Many times, for the lack of provisions, he would have to stop his work, but he never lost faith in his dream, and would return and continue his labor. At last the mine yielded the long sought precious mineral that made him a large fortune, which has multiplied and been added to.

Before his dream came true, and while he was laboring (as only one can who has faith) to take from "Mother Earth" her treasure, he met Wilford Woodruff, then president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who prophesied that "he (Jesse Knight) would save the Church's credit." Not long afterward, the mine began to yield. The Church had outstanding notes upon which the interest was nearly due, the country was in a panic and money almost impossible to get. The first car of ore came from the mine and gave much greater value than was expected. When the miners and debts incidental to the production of ore had been paid, there was ten thousand dollars remaining, which amount, Mr. Knight gave to President Woodruff, who paid the interest on the Church's notes, and its credit was saved.

From thence on, he knew the truth of dreams, visions and prophecies, that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God and that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was the restoration of God's Church on the earth.

There are many pages in the history of Mr. Knight's life that forces one to believe that the hand of providence guides our way.

He has a Christian, upright family, is in possession of great wealth, and is honored by his fellowman. Thusly endowed, many a man is raised above the multitude. It causes him to forget the griefs and hardships that the less fortunate bear. Not so with Jesse Knight—he has not changed—he hears the cry of the needy, has sympathy for those in sorrow, his heart throbs with sentiment and love for human kind, which gives him a mannerism, a receptiveness and a simplicity that makes one know that the Spirit of Jesus Christ is reflected in man on earth.

He is a beloved father, an honored citizen, a kind, assisting friend, a public benefactor, a Christian.

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